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PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant(s): **Bertram et al.** Case: **DIVA/133**
Serial No.: **09/126,884** Group Art Unit: **2611**
Filed: **July 31, 1998** Examiner: **Nguyen, B.**
Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING AND
UTILIZING A SLOTTED MPEG TRANSPORT STREAM**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies Applicants' Request to File a Continued Prosecution Application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the following paragraph as rewritten below:

On page 11, beginning line 5:

C(If the query at step 506 is answered affirmatively, then the routine 500 proceeds to step 510, where a query is made as to whether it is time to insert the replacement packet R into the slotted output transport stream. If the query at step 510 is answered affirmatively, then the routine 500 proceeds to step 512, where the insertion packet R is inserted into the transport stream T_{out} in place of the NULL packet. The routine 500 then proceeds to step 504. If the query at step 510 is answered negatively, then the routine proceeds to step 508.